

The Hampden Hippocrat

VOLUME XV

CHRISTMAS ISSUE, 1959

NO. 10



B

Hampden District Medical Society

Founded 1840

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<i>Public Health</i>	Norman A. Pokorny, M. D.
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Warren D. Platt, M. D.

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<i>Representatives on Community Council</i>	

Alfonso A. Palermo, M. D. and Thomas F. Reilly, M. D.

SPATIAL INSPIRATION

1959



WHAT if men place a mortal on the moon
Who may not know the potency of love,
Or canine twins that run, alas too soon
For friends, the gamut of the spheres above
This restless world? The joy of Christmas still
Persists for all whose ready, child-like mirth
Delights, whose candor empty souls can fill
With faith that celebrates the Savior's birth.



WHAT judgment would the Man of Cos pronounce
On learning of the cosmic trend that we
Have lived to see? Would he still take an ounce
Preventive to avoid catastrophe
And face the new-found facts as was his wont
When ignorance and ritual held sway?
For love Leander dared the Hellespont,-
God sent His only Son to show the way.

E. P. B.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DECEMBER (1) MEETING

Dinner-Meeting is held at Roger Smith Hotel, Holyoke . . . Attendance is 178 (against 240 reservations . . .) President Burke calls meeting at 8:30 p. m. . . .

Audio-visual film recorded by Dr. Orr, President of AMA on the Forand Bill is presented . . . He considers this pending bill "the most important crisis we have ever faced" . . . He outlines and suggests methods of combating it . . . Dr. Burke urges all members to write to their congressmen and senators to vote against the Forand Bill . . .

Dr. Samuel Feldman reports for Blue Shield Committee . . . The resolution contained in this report (see page 14) is adopted . . . Dr. Platt reports for committee on Insurance, Labor Relations and Industrial Accidents . . . "Relative value system is not a fee schedule", he states, "it is just a method of evaluating our own services" . . . Dr. Miner reports for Legislative Committee indicating vigorous effort on the part of State Legislative Committee in combating the Podiatry Bill and the Harmful Drug Act (page 10).

An amendment motion to refer the problem of service to the Red Cross back to the Springfield physicians is adopted . . . Dr. Joseph Schiff protests fund solicitation for a voluntary health agency on official stationery of the Registry of Motor Vehicles . . . Dr. Eugene Beauchamp, Sr. reads pamphlet favoring the Forand Bill which he received from a labor union . . . Meeting adjourns at 10:10 p. m.

WRITE YOUR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN URGING THEM TO VOTE AGAINST THE FORAND BILL

Honorable John F. Kennedy,
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Leverett Saltonstall
United States Senator
141 Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Edward P. Boland
U. S. Congressman
2nd Hampden District
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sylvio O. Conte
U. S. Congressman
1st Hampden District
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN

1. Be brief.
2. Be straightforward and sincere, giving your own ideas in your own words. Do not follow a form letter.
3. Be friendly and courteous.
4. Do not use carbon copies. Write each man individually.
5. Sign your letter legibly and always include your address.

The opinions expressed in The Hampden Hippocrat do not necessarily represent the official viewpoint of the Hampden District Medical Society — Editor

The Hampden Hippocrat

"Life is short and art is long, the occasion fleeting, experience fallacious and judgment difficult."
Hippocrates

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THE HAMPDEN HIPPOCRAT, DECEMBER, 1959

EDITORIAL

SHADES OF THE "DRUG ACT"

A recent directive "from Massachusetts Board of Registration in Pharmacy to all holders of Wholesale Druggists Licenses" should arouse the interest of all physicians in the Commonwealth. The essence of this directive is contained in paragraph six which reads:

"Because it is a fact that certain wholesalers (including certain pharmaceutical manufacturers, in many instances, by design and intent, sell, most promiscuously, prescription "legend" drugs to those who have no legal right to possess them — the Massachusetts Board of Pharmacy, in strict conformity to the law, insists that all those who hold wholesale licenses furnish the board with the names of all their accounts, with the exception of pharmacies and hospitals. The board expects the same to be forthcoming just as soon as possible."

It is fair to surmise that this directive, although addressed to the wholesalers, is really aimed at our profession. It is obviously a "backdoor" or round-about way of checking up on the physician's drug purchases. It is ostensibly also an attempt to discourage wholesalers from selling drugs and pharmaceuticals to physicians.

It should be stressed that doctors have a legal right to purchase and to possess drugs, even according to the hyper-restrictive Drug Act of which our District Society has disapproved in no uncertain terms on more than one occasion. The wholesalers, too, according to the same Drug Act, have a right to sell drugs to physicians and to other specified individuals and agencies.

The only possible effect that this directive may have is to encourage physicians to do their drug purchasing outside the boundaries of the State of Massachusetts.

M.

AVOID CONFLICTING MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society will be held at the Hotel Statler on May 17, 18, and 19. In order to encourage everybody to attend, members of our District Society are urged to cancel hospital conferences, and to avoid all other conflicting meetings during the three-day period of the State Meeting.

Harry N. Memery, Secretary

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Dosage: One tablet taken one-half to one hour before each meal.

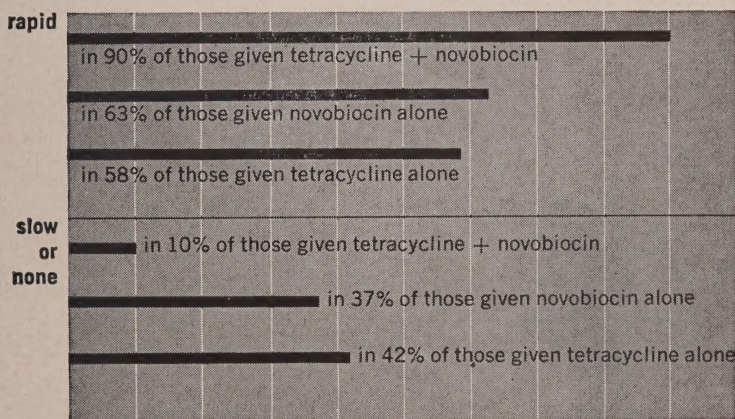


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These were the responses obtained:



1. Birkett, F. J., and others: *Lancet* 1:838 (April 18) 1959.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Luncheon Program for School Children

Dear Hippocrat:

A student luncheon program has been established by the Public School System of the City of Springfield to sell lunches to all elementary school children falling into any one of the following categories:

1. Children of working mothers
2. Physically handicapped children
3. Children who live one mile or more from school
4. Children who are transported to school by school bus
5. Children of mothers who are hospitalized
6. Needy children

Considerable adverse criticism has been leveled at our schools by the public for which we, as physicians, are partly responsible through our injudicious issuing of medical excuses to children who do not fall into one of the above categories.

The Springfield Academy of Medicine earnestly urges all physicians to cooperate with the school department in its program, so that harmful and needless criticism may be avoided.

Donald R. Hayes, M. D., President
Springfield Academy of Medicine

SEMINAR ON ALCOHOLISM

Interested physicians are invited to attend the remaining six sessions of a seminar on the etiology and community mental-health aspects of alcoholism to be held in the Herman Room, third floor, Bulfinch Building, Massachusetts General Hospital, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on the following dates:

December 16. Etiology. II Physiologic Theories. Jack Mendelson, M.D.

January 20. Etiology. III. Psychological Theories. Morris Chafetz, M.D.

February 17. Mental Health. I. Alcoholism as a Community Mental-Health Problem. Thomas Plaut, Ph.D.

March 16. Mental Health. II. Health Education as a Preventive and Case-Finding Technic. Marjorie A. C. Young, D.P.H.

April 21. Mental Health. III. The Public-Health Nurse and the Family of the Alcoholic. Charlotte E. Owens, M.P.H.

May 18. Mental Health. IV. Total Care of the Alcoholic by the Treatment-Catalyst Team. Members of the Research Staff of the Massachusetts General Hospital Alcoholism Clinic.

COMING EVENTS

Springfield Academy of Medicine, January 12, 1960

HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1960

Council Meeting of the M. M. S., February 3, 1960, Boston.

American Academy of General Practice, March 19 - 24, 1960,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

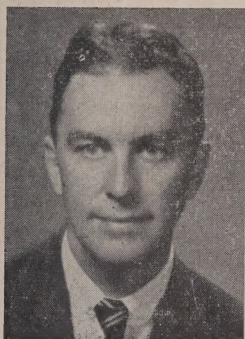
MASS. MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETING, MAY 17, 18 and 19,

HOTEL STATLER, BOSTON.

American Medical Association, Annual Meeting, June 13 - 17, 1960,

Miami Beach, Florida.

President's Page



Season's Greetings



Since assuming office last May, I have found that one of the chief burdens of the presidency is meeting the Hippocrat's monthly deadline for the President's Page. This month, however, I find that I have not only an easy, but also a very pleasant task: For the officers of the Society, may I wish for all the members of Hampden District and their families,

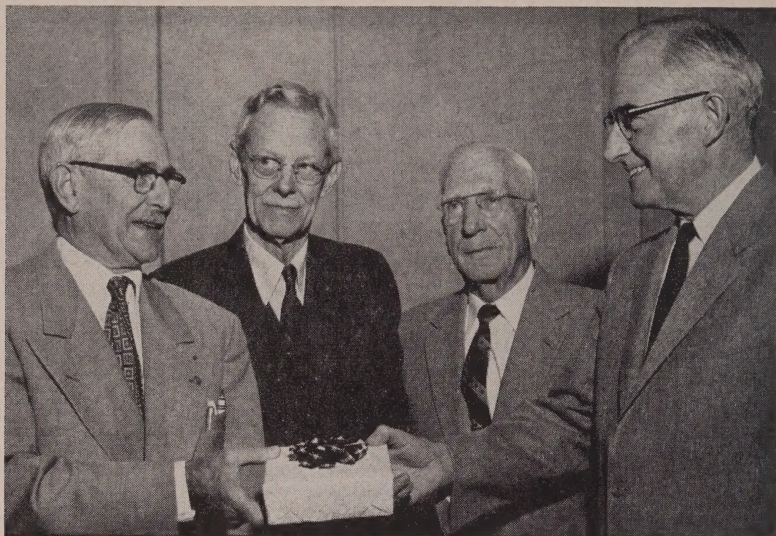
A

Merry Merry Christmas
and

A Very Happy New Year

John A. Burke, M. D.

SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS HONORED



Left to right, Dr. William G. Watts, Dr. Laurence D. Chapin, and Dr. Harry R. Wheat. Presenting the gifts is Dr. James L. Smead, president of Springfield Hospital.

At the 76th annual meeting of the Corporation of the Springfield Hospital, four veteran members of the Staff were honored for their many faithful years of service.

Dr. Laurence Dudley Chapin still in active practice, was the recipient of a gold plate in recognition of 50 years of service on the Staff.

Dr. Frederick Durgin Jones, retired, received a silver plate for his 43 years

of service. (Dr. Jones has since expired. Page 13).

Dr. Harry Ray Wheat, retired, also received a silver plate for his 43 years of service as a Staff members.

Dr. William Godfrey Watt, retired, received a silver plate for his 26 years of service on the Staff.

The presentations were made by Dr. James L. Smead, President of the Staff.
Tillman

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REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

In the past month there have been two happenings in the field of legislation of interest to the members of the Hampden District Medical Society.

The Podiatry (chiropractic) bill, passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor, has aroused considerable concern among the members of the M.M.S. This bill, in effect, "permits" the Blue Shield to pay podiatrists for as many as 59 outpatient procedures and 46 inpatient procedures. This, however, is "permissive" and not "compulsory" legislation. The Blue Shield is well aware of the feelings of the M.M.S. and further action will depend on future events.

In regards to the "Harmful Drug Act", the repeal of which was advocated by our Society, much has transpired since I last reported to this membership. A round table discussion was held on Nov. 11, 1959, by members of sub-committees of the Legislative Committee and of Committee on Pharmaceutical Problems representing the M.M.S., and a representative of the Massachusetts Pharmaceutical Association. Also attending the meeting were: Dr. Lawrence Dame, President, Dr. Carl Bearse, President-elect and Dr. Robert Buck, Secretary of the M.M.S. The feelings of both sides of the controversy were expressed so that all parties are aware of the problems. It was recommended that the above committees and parties, along with the

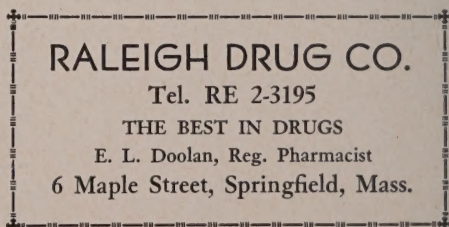
Board of Registration in Pharmacy meet with Dr. Alfred L. Frechette, Mass. Commissioner of Public Health.

Following the Nov. 11th meeting the Committee on State Legislation met and voted to file a bill amending certain paragraphs of the present Harmful Drug Act. This amendment was reported to you at the last District Meeting. It was necessary to file this amendment, even though discussions were still in progress, so that in case no satisfactory agreement was reached in our deliberations, no time would be lost in the legislature.

On Nov. 25, the meeting with Dr. Frechette was held. There were twenty-two interested parties present. Again all sides of the issue were presented. Great credit is due to Commissioner Frechette for his tact and patience, and for keeping the meeting, where opinions were strong, on a high level of discussion.

The entire problem so far as the medical profession is concerned centers around the contention of our profession that we shall have the right to treat patients in the manner in which we, as ethical physicians, believe they should be treated, so far as the "administering" of drugs is concerned.

It was decided that Mr. George Michaels, the enforcement agent for the



State Dept. of Public Health, who was present at the meeting, should meet with the Chairman of the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, and acting jointly, they should present to all interested parties, in writing, the practical interpretation of the law as now written. This interpretation, if and when approved by the M.M.S., the Board of Registration in Pharmacy and the Department of Public Health, would be the guide to which the above parties would adhere in any future actions or practices. It was agreed that this interpretation shall not be altered at the whim of any of the interested parties but would hold during the life of the present bill.

I believe that in the anticipated interpretation of this bill, which will be presented very shortly, we of Hamp-

den District have not been "sold down the river", nor have the physicians of the M.M.S.

I was gratified at the conclusion of the meeting that all present left the meeting with a friendly and optimistic feeling that much had been accomplished.

Theodore R. Miner, M. D.
Legislative Councilor



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SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL DEDICATES NEW WING

The new East Wing of the Springfield Hospital was dedicated on November 19, 1959, in conjunction with the 76th annual meeting of the Corporation of the hospital. The new wing will eventually add 183 beds to bring the hospital's total bed capacity to 575. There will be five floors of private and two-bed rooms for medical and surgical patients, one 34-bed psychiatric unit, a new x-ray department on the ground floor, with eight diagnostic rooms, one x-ray therapy room, one cobalt therapy room, and a radioisotope laboratory. It is expected that three floors with 75 medical and surgical beds will be opened in December, while the old Chapin III Unit will be closed for redesigning, possibly as an intense care unit.

Mr. C. Goodwin Carter, outgoing President of the Board of Trustees, presided over the dedication ceremonies with the newly elected President, Harry G. Webster, sitting at his side. The principal speaker at the dedication

was Dr. William C. Hill, Principal Emeritus of Springfield's Classical High School. "Today marks another milestone in the long and honorable progress of this institution," stated Dr. Hill, and added, "In no field of human endeavor has greater progress been made than in the work of the physician."

The construction of the East Wing began in May, 1958, following razing of the old South Wing of the original hospital, which has been utilized as a storage area since 1931. The architect was James H. Ritchie Associates of Boston. Daniel O'Connell & Sons of Holyoke was the contractor. The total cost including the furnishings will be about 2½ million dollars, of which \$780,000 was raised by public subscription, \$250,000 from a Hill-Burton grant, and the remainder from hospital endowment funds.

Tillman

IN MEMORIAM
FREDERICK D. JONES, M. D.

1884 - 1959

Dr. Frederick D. Jones of Springfield died at his home, 130 Kimberly Avenue, on November 21, 1959.

Dr. Jones was born in Natick, Massachusetts, on November 17, 1884. He graduated from Tufts College Medical School in 1913. After intern-ing at the Springfield Hospital, he spent some time at the Montreal General Hospital, and the Boston City Hospital. He served in the United States Army Medical Corps during World War I.

Dr. Jones was Chief Pathologist at the Springfield Hospital, the Wesson Memorial Hospital, and the Wesson Maternity Hospital for a number of years. He was also a Consulting Pathologist to the Holyoke Hospital, and the Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton. Dr. Jones was for many years the Medical Examiner for the Second Hampden District. He was a member of the American Medical Association, Massachusetts Medical Society, Hampden District Medical Society, Springfield Academy of Medicine, Massachusetts Medical-Legal Society, and the New England Pathological Society. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Pathology. Dr. Jones retired from active practice about two years ago.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the surviving members of his family and to his many friends and associates.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BLUE SHIELD DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

As reported in the Proceedings of the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society of October 7, 1959, the following action was taken by the Committee on the Utilization of Blue Shield. (See pp. 32-33.)

1. The resolution as presented by Dr. Holland "That the Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. pay fees only to doctors of medicine and to doctors of dental medicine" was discussed and disapproved by the Committee.

2. The Committee presented a resolution expressing confidence in the ability of Blue Shield to act in the best interests of all concerned.

When these two actions of the Committee were presented on the floor of the Council, both resolutions were voted down. It would appear that the members of the Council voted on both sides of the question. It would appear further that Blue Shield now finds itself uninstructed.

The Committee on Blue Shield of the Hampden District Medical Society is in receipt of a letter from Dr. Robert D. O'Malley in which he says in part: "It is my feeling that, lest action be taken by Blue Shield in an "uninstructed" frame of mind, we should again re-affirm the strong feeling of the District against the inclusion of podiatrists in the Blue Shield program".

It would appear that the Blue Shield will probably pay podiatrists because they fear the risk of incurring the wrath of the legislators. The fees of podiatrists, are on the whole, relatively small, and can usually be borne

better by the individual patient, rather than by raising the rates for all Blue Shield patients in order to pay for the service for the few. The Committee, therefore, goes on record as opposing the inclusion of podiatrists and similar groups and favoring payment by Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. only to doctors of medicine and to doctors of dental medicine. We have, accordingly, drawn up the following resolution to be presented tonight for discussion and vote.

Resolved by the members of the Hampden District Medical Society that the Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. be instructed that we strongly oppose and disapprove of the inclusion of podiatrists, chiropractors, osteopaths and other similar groups in the program of the Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. Be it further resolved that the Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. pay fees only to doctors of medicine and to doctors of dental medicine.

The Society might also wish to consider presenting to the Massachusetts Medical Service, Inc. the request for a new contract in which a provision is made that only doctors of medicine and doctors of dental medicine are to be paid for services rendered.

M. Eugene Black, M. D.,
Chairman

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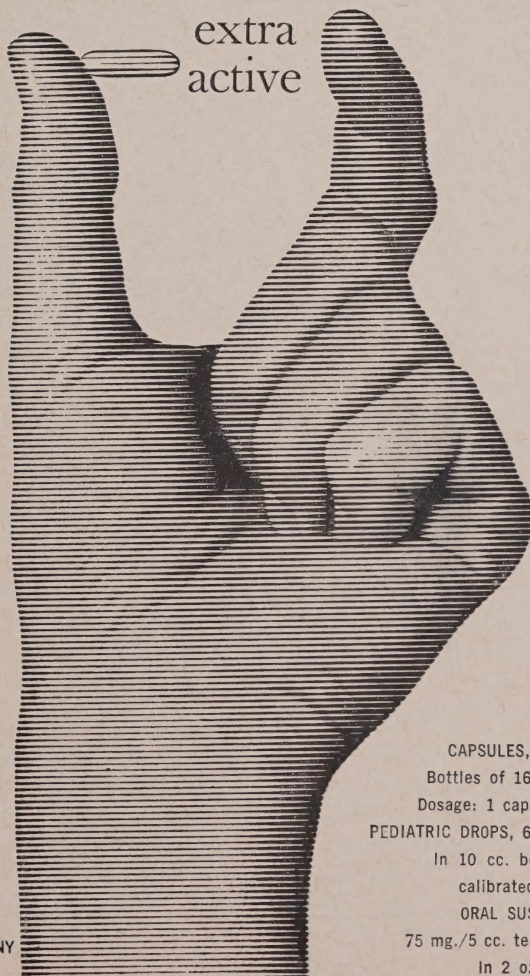
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The Auxiliary's



Four former presidents of the Auxiliary. From left to right, Mrs. Alfred M. Glickman of Springfield, Mrs. Azel P. Barney of Longmeadow, Mrs. Roger H. Cheney of Springfield and Mrs. Martin F. Gaynor of Indian Orchard.



Mrs. Arthur Gramse, left, president of the Auxiliary, is shown with auxiliary's founder and first president, Mrs. Dwight Ellis of Longmeadow.

The Annual White Cap Ball which is the only fund raising project for the Woman's Auxiliary was held November 7th in the ballroom of the Sheraton-Kimball Hotel in Springfield. As usual the doctors and their wives and friends enjoyed a fine dinner and gala evening. Over 300 attended and once again assured the success of the nurses's scholarship awards which the Auxiliary sponsors every year. This being the tenth birthday of the Auxiliary special tribute was paid to the past presidents and to the founder, Mrs. Dwight Ellis. The past presidents are:

Mrs. James Seaman (1950)
 Mrs. Roger Cheney (1951)
 Mrs. Martin Gaynor (1952)
 Mrs. Alfred Glickman (1953)
 Mrs. Azel Barney (1954)
 Mrs. Aldo Leani (1955)
 Mrs. George Ross (1956)
 Mrs. William Devlin (1957)
 Mrs. Elmer F. Franseen (1958)

Mrs. Setrag Zacarian was general chairman with Mrs. Eugene Beauchamp, Jr. her co-chairman—Mrs. Arthur E. Gramse, the president, honorary chairman—Mrs. Paul Audette, chairman of decorations, Mrs. Ed-

White - Cap Ball

ward Caruso, chairman of reservations, Mrs. Frank Mills of Westfield, chairman of invitations, Mrs. Leonard Plotkin, chairman of orchestra arrangements, Mrs. Charles Diamond, Treasurer and Mrs. Harry Baker of Holyoke, chairman of Hospitality. A total of \$1600 was raised. Sixty-five donors contributed \$615 in donations.

The Auxiliary wishes to express its gratitude to the doctors for their enthusiasm and wholehearted cooperation.



Third and fourth from left, Dr. John A. Burke, president of Men's Division of Hampden District Medical Society; and Mrs. Harry Baker, president-elect of the Woman's Division. Others at the decorative water fountain are Dr. Baker and Mrs. Burke.



Chatting around a souvenir doll are four past presidents of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Hampden District Medical Society which sponsored the ball. Left to right, Mrs. Aldo Leani, Mrs. Elmer F. Franseen, Mrs. William Devlin, all of Springfield, and holding the doll, Mrs. George Ross of Holyoke.

AUXILIARY TEA HELD

On December 1st the Woman's Auxiliary held its Annual Holiday Tea from 2 - 4 P. M. at the home of Mrs. Robert D. O'Malley, 1021 Northampton Street, Holyoke, Mass. The guest of honor was Mrs. George L. Ross, President of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Massachusetts Medical Society. Arrangements for the tea were in charge of Mrs. John M. Maloney, hospitality chairman and her committee.

Mrs. Stanley R. Dixon,
Chairman of Publicity



"Well, we're not that crowded"

For your enjoyment - Courtesy of Boyle and Company

DRUG ADDICTS

Drug addiction may no longer be as widespread as it once was, but its victims today are much younger than before. It declined from an all-time high of 195,000 in 1915, to 70,000 twenty years ago, to its present low level of 46,000. But where the addict of twenty years ago was bordering on middle age, he is today probably a male in his middle 20's who has been addicted to heroin since he was about 20. Compared to this, this typical patient at U. S. Public Health Service Hospitals twenty years ago was a male, 38 years old, who had become addicted to morphine at 27.

How do you recognize a drug addict? Not very easily. Because addicts appear normal physically and mentally, their detection is difficult. Pupillary

constriction is one warning signal—but only with addicts who have not yet developed tolerance to drugs. Other signs to look for are needle marks, scars and abscesses and tattoo marks, often used by addicts to cover needle marks. The most definitive symptom of all, though, is development of the characteristic withdrawal syndrome. Among the most common withdrawal symptoms are weakness, restlessness, appetite loss, leg pain, back pain and vomiting.

Drug addiction is found 4 times more often in men than in women. Of the country's estimated 46,226 addicts, 79 percent are men.

Addiction is primarily a problem of the young. More than 7 out of every 10 addicts are under the age of 30 and of these, 12 percent are under the age

of 21.

How young is the person who starts taking drugs? 45 percent were 19 and under when they first became addicted, and an additional 44 percent were in the 20 to 29 age group at the time of the onset.

Addiction to barbiturates is more damaging to a person than addiction to heroin and other opiates.

The barbiturate addict, is more disabled than the opiate addict in terms of thinking, judgment, reaction time, and general intellectual functioning. Moreover, barbiturate withdrawal "unless properly managed, may result in death".

How many barbiturates addicts are there in the United States? The numbers are not known, since these drugs do not come under the control of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. But the annual consumption of barbiturates in this country is an estimated 300 tons. And more people die from taking barbiturates, either accidentally or intentionally, than any other poison.

More drug addicts live in New York than any other state in the U. S. Of the four states in which most of the nation's addicts are concentrated, New York is first with 45 percent of total active addicts, Illinois second with 14 percent, California next with 13 percent and Michigan fourth with 5 percent.

Addicts live mainly in big cities, and are found largely in the poorest areas of such cities, characterized by lowest income, poorest housing, unstable family structures, and highest delinquency rates.

From Patterns of Disease,
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MEDICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM

by

**Mrs. Teresina B. Thompson, Assistant Principal
Springfield Trade High School**

Springfield Trade High School initiates hospital-externship programs for post-high school students in the Medical Assistant course. In cooperation with the administrative staff of the Wesson Memorial Hospital, opportunities for course enrichment have been provided with facilities, work experience and medical lectures in a hospital environment which could not be duplicated in a school situation. Medical assistant students attending Springfield Trade High School now have the advantage of being introduced to the auxiliary departments common to all general hospitals.

The Hospital's interest in such a program was sparked by the number of Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses going into physicians' offices and the need for assistants in the Hospital Laboratories, in Admitting Office, etc. Would not this program then provide a person who would fit into such a niche and so release the professional person?

Upon completion of the first five months in school the Medical Assistant class is divided into two groups. On alternate weeks each group is assigned to the Wesson Memorial Hospital for a ten-week period of observation and work experience which includes the following assignments.

Admitting Office, Record Library, Ward Secretary, Laboratory, Physiotherapy, X-Ray, Emergency Room and Out-Patient Department.

Identified by their attractive blue and white striped uniforms with starched white bib aprons, medical assistants join with, and benefit from, a period of association with professional personnel as partners in the Health Team.

In addition to medical techniques other related subjects include distribution of class hours in the study of anatomy and physiology, microbiology, chemistry, nutrition, psychology, medical terminology, business English and office procedures including typing, use of duplicating and transcription machines, telephone techniques, filing, and medical records.

Realizing school limitations in providing adequate facilities for a complete medical learning situation, it was felt that this cooperative hospital externship experience provided the "missing link" in a program whose specific objective is to provide better health services to the physicians who employ them and to the community in which they live.

The popularity and effectiveness of the medical assistant course continues to gain in merit and recognition each year. It was started in 1949 following

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a request made by members of the Springfield Academy of Medicine to train Medical Assistants in order to alleviate a shortage of trained personnel in this area. The course was approved by both the Springfield Public School authorities and the Massachusetts Department of Vocational Education as co-sponsor.

Individual guidance plays an important role throughout the course. Each student is studied as to her educational potentialities. In the complex society in which we live it is recognized that not only must we be concerned with the intellectual growth of the student but with her social, moral and emotional growth as well. The development of good character has always been considered an important part of the school's responsibility. Each student benefits from the daily instruction of teachers who continually stress moral and ethical values in the every day pattern of society. The guidance counselor does not carry on her task alone. Each teacher has an important part to play in developing, not only student abilities, but also developing those qualities needed for adjustment to school, life and society.

There are numerous placement opportunities available for well qualified medical assistants who complete the necessary requirements for certification, have developed proper attitudes and are willing to be of service to others. Positions may vary from assistant in the physician's office to responsible assignment in the various hospital departments or laboratory. A record of 100% placement for all *qualified* graduates has been maintained over a period of years. End

DR. KRAUS IS EXAMINER



Dr. E. I. Kraus, Chicopee, was appointed recently by Governor Foster Furculo to the post of medical examiner in the 5th Hampden District which includes Chicopee and Ludlow.

Dr. Kraus will fill the vacancy created by the recent death of Medical Examiner Lorenzo A. Remy of Aldenville.

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FOUR DAY MEETING FOR SURGEONS AND NURSES IN BOSTON

FEBRUARY 29, MARCH 1, 2, 3, 1960

Surgeons, nurses and related medical personnel from throughout the country are invited to attend a comprehensive, four-day Sectional Meeting of the American College of Surgeons in Boston, Massachusetts, February 29 through March 3, 1960. Headquarters will be the Statler Hilton and Sheraton Plaza hotels, with many sessions scheduled at leading Boston hospitals.

This four-day meeting, a once-yearly event inaugurated in Boston in 1953, will include sessions in general surgery and separate programs in the surgical specialties for gynecologists and obstetricians, ophthalmic surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, otolaryngologists, thoracic surgeons, urologists, and nurses. This meeting, like the annual Clinical Congress, is designed to inform the medical profession at large about developments in surgery, and to focus attention on newer ways of handling problems encountered in daily practice.

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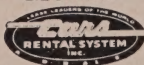
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References: 1. Cronk, G. A.; Naumann, D. E., and Casson, K.: *Antibiotics Annual 1957-1958*, New York, Medical Encyclopedia Inc., 1958, p. 397. 2. Childs, A. J.: *Brit. M. J.* 1:660 (Mar.) 1956. 3. Newcomer, V. D.; Wright, E. T., and Sternberg, T. H.: *Antibiotics Annual 1954-1955*, New York, Medical Encyclopedia Inc., 1955, p. 686. 4. Gimble, A. I.; Shea, J. G., and Katz, S.: *Antibiotics Annual 1955-1956*, New York, Medical Encyclopedia Inc., 1956, p. 676. 5. Stone, M. L., and Mersheimer, W. L.: *Antibiotics Annual 1955-1956*, New York, Medical Encyclopedia Inc., 1956, p. 862. 6. Campbell, E. A.; Prigot, A., and Dorsey, G. M.: *Antibiotic Med. & Clin. Ther.* 4:817 (Dec.) 1957.

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THE MOST DAMAGING POISON

BOTULISM, caused by nature's most damaging poison, today remains a mystery to the scientific world.

Since the canning industry solved the problem of killing the botulism organisms, this dread poison ceased to be a threat. However, there is much work yet to be done in this field, Dr. Carl Lamanna of the Naval Biological Laboratory at the School of Public Health, University of California, reports in *Science* (Sept. 25).

There are five strains of botulism organisms, labeled A, B, C, D and E. Whether or not there are other types has yet to be determined.

Food poisoning in man by toxin types A, B and E have been reported frequently. Botulinal toxins are unquestionably the most potent poisons known, the health officer says. Botulism results in vomiting, abdominal pain, difficult vision, dryness of the mouth, nervous disorders and a barking cough in man. There have been 13

cases of botulism in the United States this year.

Most of the scientific work on botulism has centered around the type A toxin. This is probably due to the fact that Type A is the cause of botulism in humans, Dr. Lamanna speculated. In addition, culture collections of a number of strains of type A bacilli readily produce large quantities of toxin, poison producers, in the laboratory.

The problem at hand is to study the other types and learn as much about them as science now knows about type A, he stressed. Science does not yet know what, in the molecular structure of these poisons, causes their specificity and extraordinary toxicity.

There has been a decline in interest in botulism, he said.

"It is to be hoped that no new threat will be needed to generate a renewed wave of investigations," he concluded.

Science N. L., Oct. 10, 1959

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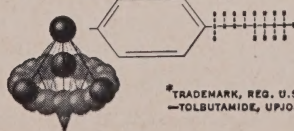
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NEW ENGLAND POSTGRADUATE ASSEMBLY

The Seventeenth Annual New England Postgraduate Assembly was held at the Statler Hilton in Boston, Massachusetts on November 3, 4 and 5, 1959. The first day's attendance of about 300 was excellent, although very few were seen from our area.

The highlight of the first day was undoubtedly the discussion relative to Poliomyelitis vaccine. Participants introduced by Dr. Cannon Ely were, Dr. John Enders, Nobel Prize winner, Boston, Dr. Albert Sabin of Cincinnati, originator of an attenuated oral vaccine, Dr. Oscar Batson, Professor of Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, Dr. Edward Curem, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of North Carolina and Director of the Infectious Disease section of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Dr. Harold Cox, who with Dr. Koprowski at Lederle Laboratories, has also produced an oral vaccine for polio.

The general argument seemed that the Salk vaccine leaves much to be desired. About 40% of the injected either do not acquire adequate protection or lose it very quickly. This year there have been about 5,000 paralytic polio cases in the country and many of them had received three or four injections of the Salk vaccine.

Dr. Cox presented detailed studies of an oral live vaccine which seemed to show almost 100% protection in epidemic areas of Minnesota, Argentina, Columbia, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Dr. Sabin reported equally good results of studies in Russia, Czechoslovakia, India and Singapore. No

cases of morbidity either in patients receiving the vaccine or contacts in the community were found and they conclude that it is a safe procedure. However, in view of the fact that the oral vaccine will probably not be licensed in this country for some time, a yearly booster dose of Salk vaccine is recommended.

The highlight of the second day was the address of Mr. Wilfred T. Connell, President, International Photo-Engravers Union of North America, on what labor expects of medicine. His opinion was that labor was solidly behind the Forand Bill, as they wished the security of it for their parents at present, and for themselves when they became Social Security recipients. He stated that they expected to pass the Bill as they were well organized with a definite objective in view and a program outlined to gain their objective. Medicine, on the other hand, he described as poorly organized, with no objective and no program. He also stated, that once the law had been passed a flood of amendments would introduce "cradle to grave" medical care at the tax-payers expense.

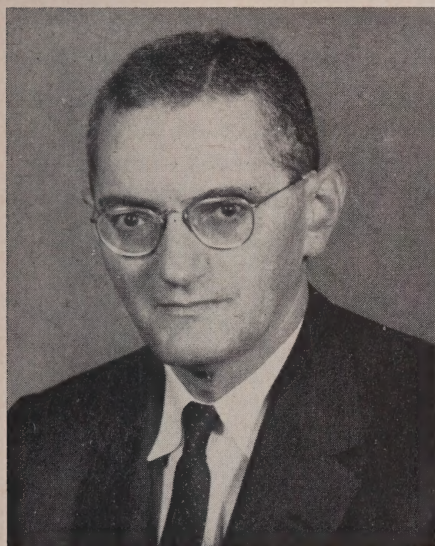
The Gem Lectures and Panels were excellent and enjoyed by all present. "Clinical Pathological Conferences" presented some real problems and these were well discussed.

Miller

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ACADEMY



Isadore Lampe, M.D.

At the January 12th meeting of the Springfield Academy of Medicine the speaker will be Dr. Isadore Lampe, Professor of Radiology, University of Michigan School of Medicine, Director Alice Crocker Lloyd Radiation Therapy Center. His topic will be "Some Facets of Radiotherapy Today". The Clinical Conference in the afternoon will be held at the Wesson Memorial Hospital, 5 p. m. Topic will be "Radiotherapeutic Problems".

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Future Speakers

February 9, 1960

Lewis Dexter, M. D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School. Clinical Conference will be held at the Mercy Hospital.

March 9, 1960

Robert E. Gross, M. D., Professor of Child Surgery, Harvard Medical School. Clinical Conference will be held at the Springfield Hospital.

April 12, 1960

Edward A. Edwards, M. D., Associate Clinical Professor, Harvard Medical School. His topic will be Peripheral Vascular Disease. The afternoon clinical conference will be held at the Wesson Memorial Hospital.

NEW BOOKS

Books recently acquired by the Springfield Academy Library.

Cardiology:

Edited by Aldo A. Louisada, M.D.
Vol. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Sponsored by the American College of Cardiology

Principles of Internal Medicine:
Harrison 3rd Ed.

Metabolic Care of the Surgical Patient: Moore

Spatial Vector Electrocardiography:
Grant

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Results of the recent Essay Contest conducted by the Hippocrat will appear in the January Issue.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE:

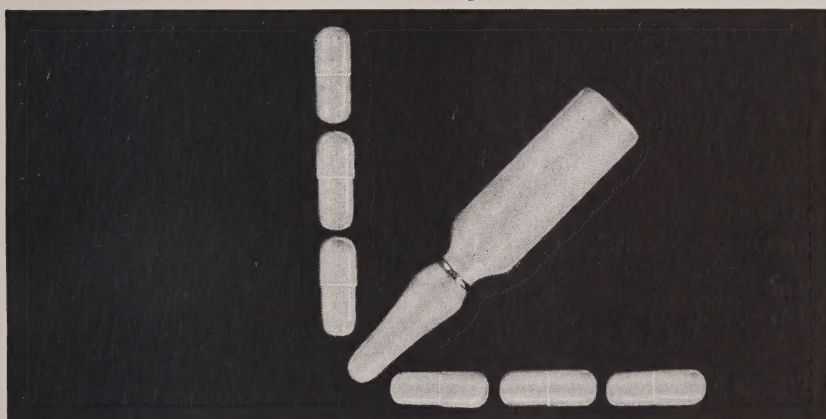
- That hospital births are up but physicians are delivering fewer and fewer of the non-hospital born babies. (Midwives and others delivered 59.3% of them in 1957.)
- That 98 anti-cancer drugs for clinical trial have been approved by the U. S. Government in the past four years.
- That 65% of all MD's visits take place in his office.
- That in 1933 the number of man-hours of work needed to pay for an average M. D. office visit was four hours and 48 minutes; today it is one hour and 42 minutes.
- That women lead in cancer incidence (up to age 57), but chances of survival are better in women than in men.
- That in 1958 doctors contributed \$4,154,450 to medical schools.
- That the birth rate for teen-age mothers has leaped 74% since 1948.
- That appendicitis is on the wane both in number of operations and death rate.
- That cancer (as child killer) rose 50% in decade.
- That VD among teenagers increased 10% in one year.
- That most physicians oppose adoption of standard fees.
- That 15,000,000 people haven't seen an M. D. in 5 years.
- That 40% of all doctors in private practice own stocks.
- That half of a doctors's house call time is spent in reaching patient's home.
- That women do more about hypertension than men.
- That 1 out of 16 babies is congenitally malformed.
- That the average person is sick in bed 7.8 days a year.

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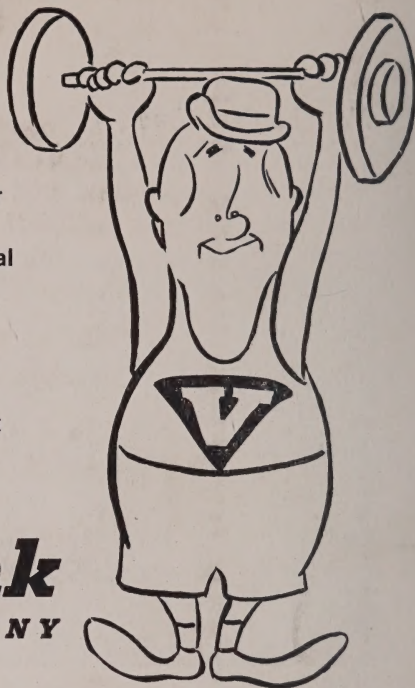
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